

**Message to the Congress Giving
Notification of Intent To Enter an
Agreement on Tariff Treatment of
Multi-Chip Integrated Circuits**

November 14, 2005

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 2103(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 2002, I am pleased to notify the Congress of my intention to enter into an agreement with the European Union, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Taiwan on tariff treatment for multi-chip integrated circuits. Multi-chip integrated circuits are semiconductor devices used in computers, cell phones, and other high-technology products.

United States-based companies are the principal suppliers to the world of multi-chip integrated circuits. In 2004, global sales of finished multi-chip integrated circuits were estimated to be \$4.2 billion, and U.S. semiconductor companies account for roughly half of those sales.

The United States, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, and Taiwan will apply zero duties on these products as of an agreed date. The target date for entry into force of the Agreement is January 1, 2006. Japan already applies zero duties on these products and expects to ratify the Agreement formally in 2006. Further, although all major producers of multi-chip integrated circuits will be parties to the Agreement, we will seek to build on this Agreement by joining together to work in the World Trade Organization to increase the number of countries granting duty-free treatment to these products.

George W. Bush

The White House,
November 14, 2005.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 16.

Proclamation 7961—National Farm-City Week, 2005

November 15, 2005

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Farming is America's first industry, and the success of America's farmers and ranchers is crucial to the prosperity of our country. During National Farm-City Week, we recognize the important relationship between rural and urban industries that helps keep our farmers and our Nation strong.

America's farmers and ranchers work hard, and they provide a healthy, safe, and abundant food supply for our citizens and for countless individuals abroad. In order to make their goods available to the public, they depend on partnerships with processors, transporters, marketers, distributors, and many others. These cooperative networks make up America's robust agricultural industry and account for about one-sixth of all jobs in the United States.

My Administration understands that our farm economy is a source of strength for our Nation, and we remain committed to advancing policies that will improve our country's agricultural industry. We have successfully implemented the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, which significantly increased conservation funding and provided an important safety net for our farmers. Earlier this year, I signed the Central American-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement, which will help ensure that free trade is fair trade and level the playing field for American products exported to Central America. To continue to open new markets for America's farmers and ranchers, we must also work for a free and fair global trading system. Through the World Trade Organization's Doha Round of trade negotiations, we are seeking to reduce and eliminate tariffs and other barriers to U.S. agricultural goods.

As we celebrate National Farm-City Week, we express appreciation for those who make a living off the land. Their hard work and dedication to maintaining strong networks between rural areas and urban communities